

Message Text

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TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185978

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.) CH, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S PRC VISIT: PEKING PROGRAM

1. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES GUIDANCE FOR USLO'S INITIAL APPROACH TO MFA REGARDING SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE IN PEKING. SOME POINTS WERE DISCUSSED INFORMALLY WITH PRCLO'S COUNSELOR TSIEN AUGUST 6, WHEN WE CONFIRMED TO HIM THAT ISSUES WOULD BE HANDLED IN USLO-MFA CHANNEL AND PROVIDED SECRETARY'S PARTY NAMELIST (SEPTEL).

2. GENERAL. THE SECRETARY PREFERS SUCH VISITS TO BE DEVOTED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS, MINIMIZING, INsofar AS CONSISTENT WITH LOCAL PRACTICE, SIGHTSEEING AND ENTERTAINMENT. SECRETARY RISES EARLY AND THUS NORMALLY WILL BE PREPARED TO BEGIN MEETINGS AT 9 AM WHEN NOTHING IS SCHEDULED BEFOREHAND. PARTICULARLY SINCE MRS. VANCE IS ACCOMPANYING HIM, HE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID
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EVENING MEETINGS WITH CHINESE. WE WILL BE PROVIDING GUIDANCE FOR SEPARATE PROGRAM FOR MRS. VANCE AND WE WOULD HOPE IT POSSIBLE FOR MEMBERS OF PARTY WHO HAVE NOT VISITED PRC BEFORE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME SIGHTSEEING. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, WE EXPECT TO MINIMIZE IMPOSING ON CHINESE FOR SEPARATE SCHEDULES FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF PARTY.

3. ARRIVAL TIME. WE HAVE CONSIDERED ALTERNATIVE AUGUST 22 ARRIVAL TIMES: (A) ARRIVAL EARLY ENOUGH (E.G. 11:30 AM) TO PERMIT TWO HOURS OF SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS TO TAKE PLACE THAT AFTERNOON BEFORE WELCOME BANQUET, AND (B) ARRIVAL EARLY OR MID-AFTERNOON, WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING SESSION ON FIRST DAY. IN TAKING THIS UP WITH MFA, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT SECRETARY WOULD PREFER MINIMUM "FREE" TIME IN SCHEDULE AND THEREFORE WOULD PREFER TO SCHEDULE WORKING SESSION ON ARRIVAL DAY, BUT WOULD NOT WISH TO PRESS IF NOT CONVENIENT TO CHINESE SIDE.

4. SIGHTSEEING. THE SECRETARY, HAVING VISITED CHINA IN 1975, WOULD NOT EXPECT TO VISIT OTHER CITIES THAN PEKING. SIMILARLY, HAVING DONE SOME SIGHTSEEING IN PEKING, AND BECAUSE HE PREFERS TO EMPHASIZE SUBSTANCE ON SUCH VISITS, HE WOULD PREFER TO LIMIT SIGHTSEEING PERHAPS TO ONE SYMBOLIC EVENT LASTING TWO TO THREE HOURS (E.G. ONE AFTERNOON.)

5. USLO VISIT. PEKING PROPOSAL (1649 PARA 2) FOR EARLY EVENING EVENT AT USLO TENTATIVELY ACCEPTABLE, SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH THE SECRETARY. (WE ASSUME USLO DINNER WOULD INCLUDE MRS. VANCE.) WE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING PRECISE TIMING, FOLLOWING YOUR MEETING WITH MFA.

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6. SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS. WE ARE ASSUMING, WITH EXCEPTION OF BREAK FOR SIGHTSEEING, THAT SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS OF TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY.

7. EVENING EVENTS. WE ASSUME CHINESE WILL PROPOSE WELCOME BANQUET MONDAY EVENING AND FAREWELL BANQUET THURSDAY EVENING. THE SECRETARY WOULD LIKE AT LEAST ONE EVENING "FREE," WHICH POSSIBLY COULD BE USED FOR USLO EVENT (PARA 4). WE ASSUME CHINESE WILL PROPOSE ONE EVENING CULTURAL EVENT. IF USLO JUDGES THIS TO BE FIRM REQUIREMENT, THIS IS ACCEPTABLE. WE HOPE THAT SUCH AN EVENING PROGRAM CAN BE RELATIVELY BRIEF AND THAT USLO CAN NUDGE CHINESE AWAY FROM HEAVY OPERA OR BALLET AND TOWARD LIGHTER ENTERTAINMENT, EITHER ATHLETIC OR MUSICAL.

8. DEPARTURE. ANTICIPATE DEPARTURE FROM PEKING WILL BE 10 AM FRIDAY, AUGUST 26. WE WILL SUPPLY DETAILED FLIGHT SCHEDULE AFTER DECISION ON ARRIVAL TIME.

9. PRCLO ACTING CHIEF HAN HSU HAS ACCEPTED ASSISTANT

SECRETARY HOLBROOKE'S INVITATION FOR LUNCH THURSDAY,
AUGUST 11. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ISSUES RELATING TO
ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT AS REFINED AS
POSSIBLE BY THAT TIME TO MAKE LUNCHEON MAXIMALLY
USEFUL IN THAT RESPECT. PLEASE REPORT YOUR DISCUS-
SIONS WITH MFA WITH IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE.
CHRISTOPHER

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